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RE

Appl. No. 10/027,343
Amendment dated September 9, 2003
Reply to Office Action of August 4, 2003

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re:

Applicants: Looper, et al. Atty. Docket No.: VM6117/ALL8057
Serial No.: 10/027,343 Examiner: Kenneth G. Schopfer
Filing Date: December 19, 2001 Group Art Unit: 3739
Entitled: RECONFIGURABLE SURGICAL APPARATUS

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

Date of Deposit: 9/16/2003

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being sent via Facsimile to the attention of Kenneth G. Schopfer at Facsimile Number: 703-872-9303; c/o Commissioner for Patents, Mail Stop AF, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Christine Cameron
Christine Cameron

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111

Dear Commissioner:

This communication is in response to a final Office Action mailed on August 4, 2003. As this communication is being submitted within the shortened statutory period for reply of three months, it is believed to be timely and no fee is required. Additionally, this communication is being submitted within two months of the date of mailing and therefore shall be afforded a prompt advisory action. Please enter the following amendments to the claims without prejudice and consider the following remarks, which support allowance of those claims.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 14 of this paper.

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Date September 16, 2003

To Examiner Kenneth G. Schopfer
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From Donald O. Nickey, Assistant General Counsel
Phone (614) 757-5542
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Subject U.S. Patent Application Serial No.:10/027,343; Entitled: RECONFIGURABLE SURGICAL APPARATUS; inventors: Looper et al.

Pages 23 Pages (including this page)

Notes: Attached to this cover sheet (1 page) are the following documents:

- 1) Response Under 37 C.F.R. §1.111 (1 page)
- 2) Summary of Claim Amendments and Comments (1 page)
- 3) Amendment/Listing of Claims (11 pages)
- 4) Remarks/Rejection of Claims (8 Pages)
- 5) Conclusion (1 page)

Attorney Docket Number: VM6117/ALL8057

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